



ལོ་འཁོར་སྟོན་ལྒྱུ། Annual Report

2010/2011



Promoting impoverished
and disadvantaged communities
by assisting locally identified needs



མཛེས་མཐུན་དགེ་ལྡན་ཚོགས་པ།
Friendship Charity Association

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Letter

Dear Supporters and Friends,

Thanks to you, we report a very successful 2011. With very low administrative costs (13.5%) and the help of volunteers, FCA implemented twenty-three projects with a total value of 1.3 million RMB (210,939USD) meeting urgent needs of 16,314 marginalized Tibetans.


A small, pioneering grassroots NGO that began in 2008 in east-central Qinghai Province (Amdo), FCA targets impoverished communities in Mangra (Guinan) County, Hainan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province. Projects completed in 2010 and 2011 include clean water, sanitation, crop irrigation, solar cookers, desert reclamation, clothing distribution, holiday teaching programs, vocational training, libraries, scholarships, and preserving a record of endangered cultural heritage. FCA members from local communities use a participatory, community-based approach to devise, implement, facilitate, and monitor projects.

With each project contingent on external funding every year, FCA recognizes the importance of establishing social entrepreneurship programs that empower impoverished communities to overcome poverty, and solve social problems in a locally appropriate and sustainable way. FCA staff hope to assist more marginalized communities in future.

For more on FCA's work, see: www.friendshipcharity.org

Thank you again for your tremendous support.

Sincerely,



Nangchukja

Director

Friendship Charity Association

www.friendshipcharity.org

31 January 2012



FCA OVERVIEW

Friendship Charity Association (FCA) is a non-governmental, non-profit, non-religious organization with fifty members that bridges between donors and Tibetan communities. It was registered with the Civil Affairs Bureau, Mangra County in October 2008.

Vision

A better future for the impoverished people of East-Central Qinghai.

Mission Statement

Promoting disadvantaged communities by assisting locally identified needs in:

- basic education
- health care
- water and sanitation
- environmental protection
- cultural preservation
- social business initiatives

Our goals and principles are best achieved by:

- a participatory approach in researching local conditions;
- strengthening communication between organizations, donors, and volunteers to conduct project planning;
- building local capacity;
- sharing results and experiences with other local organizations;
- prioritizing sustainability and effectiveness of each project and program;
- maintaining professional integrity;
- treating all those engaged in our work with respect;
- being humble in our words and actions, listening to all opinions; and
- truly and responsibly pursuing our vision and mission.

Operation Area

FCA focuses on meeting acute needs of impoverished people in east-central Qinghai, primarily in Mangra County, which is home to 65,474 people, of whom 72% are Tibetan. Herding and farming are key economic activities in 73 administrative villages and in three herding and three farming townships and towns of Mangra.

OUR TEAM



Project Director

Nangchukja, a Mangra Tibetan native, is a graduate of Qinghai Normal University.

Email: nangchukja@friendshipcharity.org

Phone: (+86) 186 9711 9221 / 150 0971 5285



Project Deputy Director

Kawa Namgyal, is a Mangra Tibetan native and currently lectures in English to Tibetan students at Qinghai Normal University. He received his MA in Applied Sociology and Anthropology from the Ateneo de Manila University and has a rich background in development work.

Email: kawa@friendshipcharity.org

Phone: (+86) 138 9704 9976



Financial Manager

Namjay Tsering, a Tibetan native of Hualong County, is a graduate of Qinghai Normal University, and is the current project manager of FCA.

Email: namjay@friendshipcharity.org

Phone: (+86) 158 0971 4064



Project Manager

Sangjee Drondrub, a Tibetan native of Hualong County, graduated from Dalian Maritime University, worked in Guangzhou for three years, and has worked for FCA since June 2010.

Email: sangjee@friendshipcharity.org

Phone: (+86) 150 0971 5526

Education



Overall

To improve local literacy rates and improve education. FCA implements projects targeting:

- Libraries
- Teaching programs for junior middle school students during holidays
- Basic courses in math, Chinese communication skills, and written Tibetan
- Scholarships for senior middle school and university students
- Vocational training for young villagers

Teaching Program

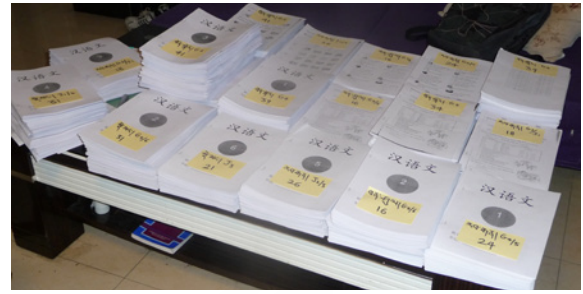
FCA has piloted a Tibetan, English, and Chinese teaching program since 2005 in Bon skor Tibetan Community, which is held twice yearly. The program strengthens knowledge of Tibetan, English, and Chinese thus empowering students in encounters with the outside world and raising local awareness of the importance of education.

This teaching program has been an on-going success. About twenty students from Bon skor Community will take the college entrance examination in 2012, and current local students school attendance has increased to ninety-nine percent.

Once aware of the positive impact of these teaching programs, many community schools have approached FCA for external assistance. FCA subsequently brought similar teaching programs to six other local community schools in 2011. We wish to expand such teaching programs while further exploring how locals can support such programs in a self-sustaining way.

A relevant recent report may be viewed at: <http://tinyurl.com/6ovcgzy>

Highlight



FCA organizes textbooks with local teachers according to student level. Textbooks are photocopied from different textbooks or excerpts of lessons that can be taught during the teaching programs.



Students attend a FCA Teaching Program for twenty days in Mangra County Primary School in December 2011.



Students take final exams in the schoolyard. Exams and quizzes were given to students to measure student level and final exams were given to measure progress.



Awards were given to three top students from each class at the end of the program. These awards encourage students to study further and change parents' attitude toward education.

Kindergarten

Local government policy in 2008 moved most local village primary school students (grades one to six), chairs, stools, and desks to local county and township center schools. Most communities in Mangra County are without pre-elementary education programs. Only ten kindergartens were government-supported in Mangra County in 2011; at least fifty communities lack proper kindergartens. On average, each school had fifty to sixty students in 2008. The school-age children in the county suitable for pre-elementary education programs number 6,633 (3,083 children aged four to six; 1,071 children are less than four); 468 children are from the county town and 6,165 are from seventy-three villages. The distance between these villages and the county town ranges from five to eighty-six kilometers. Current kindergartens enroll only 32% percent of these children.

Many communities lack a qualified manager or headmaster for kindergarten classes, children's books, sports items, and desks. Consequently, many children remain at home while those at school were misguided and found school and textbooks to be boring in a poor study environment.

FCA has implemented basic education supplies and kindergarten teacher training in five local community-based kindergartens creating a better study environment. A Tibetan kindergarten workshop held in Xining trained local teachers in cooperation with a partner organization that introduced new teaching methods. FCA also placed linguistically and culturally appropriate kindergarten textbooks and children's interest books.

Relevant final reports may be viewed at:

1. <http://tinyurl.com/7wbznju>
2. <http://tinyurl.com/7dghso3>

Highlight



A kindergarten teacher training held in 2011 benefited ten kindergarten teachers from Mangra County, who learned teaching methodologies from a foreign teacher trainer.



Education supplies were provided to five kindergartens in 2011 with support of the German Embassy in Beijing, benefitting 600 students and teachers.



German Embassy project coordinator Mr. Michael Rotter visits the project after completion.



Students in Demang Village use sport equipment.

Tibetan Education Journal Publication The Rhythm of Bya chu

The *Rhythm of Bya chu* (bya chu'i 'gyur khugs) is a Tibetan-language journal focusing on non-political poetic and literary works, non-fiction essays, and short stories translated from Chinese and English that strives to encourage students to study and write in Tibetan. Local writers are encouraged to contribute their work for publication. The journal editorship hopes locals will take an interest in seeing their children's works published and thus better realize the value of education, thereby encouraging them to send their children to school rather than keeping them at home to work.

From 2003, the Bon skor Tibetan Village Primary School has periodically published the journal with locally raised funds. Fortunately, since 2011 funds for the publication were found that allowed for the publication of 500 copies (in 2011) and in subsequent years. Meanwhile, new editorship came to the journal.

The journal may be viewed on-line at:
<http://www.digitalhimalaya.com/collections/journals/rbc/>

Highlight



Three FCA editors edit the journal prior to publication. Since 2011, new editorship came to the journal *The Rhythm of Bya chu* (TRBC).



Volumes of TRBC since 2007. The 2012 journal will soon be published.



Scholarships

Local students often lack financial support and discontinue education while in senior middle school and university. Most such students' families herd sheep, goats, yaks, and cattle or, if they are farmers, cultivate barley, wheat, and potatoes. The average annual cash income per person is 363 - 600 RMB. Locals sell livestock, sheep wool, and caterpillar fungus and seldom go outside the local area to work due to limited Chinese language skills.

With poor family conditions, many students remain at home, marry, do family chores, and repeat the cycle of poverty. FCA is supporting twenty-five students in senior middle schools and in colleges. Many more students urgently need scholarships.

Highlight



An 18 year old orphan supported since primary school will take the university entrance examination in June 2012.



Shawo Drolma is 24 years old and majored in English language at Qinghai Normal University. She will be graduate in June 2012.



Sontharja, a 24 year old from an impoverished family majored in Tibetan Medicine at Qinghai University Medical College and will graduate in August 2012.



Duodala, a 26 year old student majoring in English graduated from Qinghai Normal University in 2011. He is currently studying for a MA in Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University in Boston, USA.

Library Books Project

FCA implemented four library book projects before 2010. In 2011, FCA staff participated in library management training in different counties in Qinghai in cooperation with Shanghai Cherished Dream Foundation, which established two modern libraries in two central primary schools in Mangra County.



Highlight



A teacher explains a story in a new book from the school library provided by FCA.



A primary school girl reads in the new library.



Two boys find interesting books.



Two primary school boys read together in the library.

Comprehensive Literacy & Employment Training

The Mangra County government implemented policies in resettlement planning, grassland division, and erecting fences to reduce livestock number. As a result, local family income was reduced and many locals had to give up a traditional lifestyle. Some communities were resettled near local towns. None of such community members were given job training prior to resettlement. Lacking knowledge of the Chinese language combined with absolute illiteracy, means that many locals find it difficult to make a living. Due to lack of vocational and communication skills, few locals, especially from farming communities, go outside to work at waitressing, construction work, herding, and tailoring. Such work earns 500-1,000RMB per month per person. Illiterate youths increasingly turn to crime to obtain money, which is partially the result of lacking vocational skills that would provide income.

FCA established five vocational training centers in 2011 and implemented literacy programs (basic Tibetan, Chinese, Math, and business skills) to about 200 illiterates in five Tibetan villages. Along with the training, the classroom was equipped with such education resources as a computer and books for each center.

Highlight



A forum was held in four villages for three days, raising awareness of local education. Some 80 local villagers per village attended.



Dorjeetso, a local woman well-known for her intricate embroidery. FCA implemented a skill training program with her to train over 50 women in 2011 and will train more in 2012.



Some local women in the training room learning how to embroider.



A teacher from Northwest Nationalities University teaches basic Chinese to local illiterate young villagers in Shaja Village.

WATER AND SANITATION



Overall

In order to improve local sanitation and water, FCA seeks funds to do projects focusing on:

- Solar energy
- Running water
- Irrigation

Toilets and Pigsties for Tibetan Communities

Many villages lack pigsties and toilets. Due to lack of such sanitation infrastructures, locals urinate and defecate in and near village households, which puts humans and livestock in close proximity, creating conditions for diseases to cross from people to animals, e.g., stray pigs eat fecal matter, enter homes, and lick bowls and cooking pots, transmitting diseases to people. Locals' understanding of hygiene is poor.

FCA implemented four safe, clean, and cost-effective toilets; four large pigsties greenhouses in 2011; and sixty toilets in 2010 in eight communities. Manure in the toilets and pigsties is used as fertilizer in farming. A basic health-training program covered how and why to use the pigsties and toilets, and raised awareness of health care.

Relevant final report online:

<http://tinyurl.com/7897pz2>

Highlight



A construction expert builds toilets and pigsties in Keba Village while training the family members in basic construction.



A pigsty and toilet in Rabgan Village completed in 2011.



FCA brought a new toilet model to communities in 2010. Many locals have built similar toilets since then, improving village sanitation.



A pigsty and greenhouse project in process. Labor is provided by locals and FCA provides materials.

Water

Locals may be forced to travel ten to twenty km a day to fetch drinking water and to water their livestock. Locals carry plastic water containers on their backs, using motorcycles, by pulling carts, and using donkeys. Since water is inadequate, locals do not wash clothing and bathe frequently, thus personal hygiene and sanitation facilities conditions are poor.

FCA has implemented eight clean water projects in nine communities.

Relevant final reports online:

- <http://tinyurl.com/7tat3eg>
- <http://tinyurl.com/6uvvyoh>
- <http://tinyurl.com/72g4smt>
- <http://tinyurl.com/6s3wspz>
- <http://tinyurl.com/7zup4uq>
- <http://tinyurl.com/6pn4nn4>
- <http://tinyurl.com/6qg7flh>

Highlight



The German Embassy project coordinators visit a reservoir project in Damang Village.



Villagers receive clean water in Damang Village after implementing a running water project supported by HuaQiao Foundation.



A local woman uses new running water in her family courtyard for both livestock and drinking.



A water well is being constructed by two local residents.

HEALTHCARE



Overall

FCA aims to improve rural community health condition by:

- Holding health-training programs
- Building health clinics
- Building toilets
- Warm clothing

Tibetan Health Clinic and Health Training

Many communities lack funds to build a clinic and government does not provide financial assistance. Locals may spend hours reaching township or county hospitals for medical treatment. Local Tibetans lack basic knowledge of sanitation and hygiene, resulting in STDs, flu, eye diseases, hepatitis, accidental injuries, and high infant mortality.

Unprotected sex is common and many locals have never seen a condom. Many teenage girls become pregnant before marriage, leading to family conflicts.

FCA implement has addressed these issues through health training and building two community-based health clinics stocked with an initial supply of medicines and staffed with experienced Tibetan doctors, reducing hours needed to seek medical treatment and saving ten to fifteen RMB per person per trip to consult a doctor.

Relevant final report online:

<http://tinyurl.com/72u4xna>

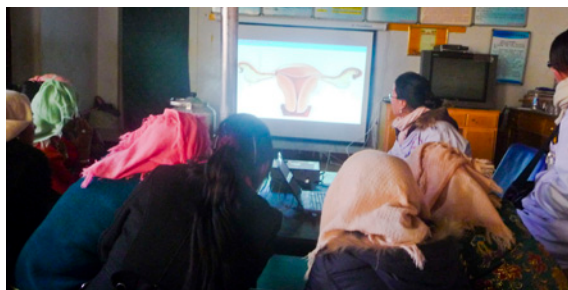
Highlight



A health clinic project supported by the German Embassy in Beijing in 2011 is in progress.



The project completed a clinic where a doctor prescribes medicines.



A health training was held for local women regarding basic hygiene and sanitation.



The German Embassy project coordinator visited the project after completion.

Clothing

Very impoverished families lack adequate clothing. The areas where clothes are distributed are at high altitude and have five months when the average temperature is around minus fifteen degrees. In 2011, FCA brought 9,448 articles of clothing to 4,431 Tibetan residents.

Relevant final report online:
<http://tinyurl.com/6w5tabf>

Highlight



A mother receives shoes for her daughter in Bon skor Village.



A single mother from an impoverished family receives clothes in Jadang Village.



An elder receives clothes from FCA. She has been single for a decade and now is too old to find work and lacks financial support.



A schoolboy was a recipient in a project supported by Crown Relocation.

CULTURAL PRESERVATION



Overall

The loss of cultural heritage is accelerating as locals are increasingly exposed to the outside world through radio, television, DVD/VCD, and the Internet. FCA records traditional songs and videotapes festivals and conversations with elders. Since February 2010, FCA has recorded more than 600 folksongs, organized and recorded New Year ceremonies, and organized an annual folksong competition. FCA edits this material, publishes DVDs and CDs, and returns them to the local communities.

These materials are archived on-line:

- <http://www.archive.org/details/2011BonSkorLosarVisitingFolksongs>
- <http://www.archive.org/details/BonSkorTibetanCommunityFolksongCompetition2010>
- <http://www.archive.org/details/MangraTibetan>

Highlight



A New Year celebration organized and supported by FCA since 2010 in Bon skor Tibetan Community. This photo was taken in 2011.



Local dancers and singers in 2011. Dancers and singers trained for a month prior to the celebration. Over 1,000 people watched performances.



A woman sings during a song competition in Bon skor Village. A annual folksong competition aims to help preserve endangered Tibetan music in Mangra County.



Folksong competition contestants in June 2011.



A handicraft business implemented since 2010 produces crafts including a traditional Tibetan nomad hat being made by a local villager as shown .



Local craftsmen display their products after completion.



Archery is an endangered local culture practice. FCA purchased a bow and arrows in 2011 to encourage the continuation of archery.



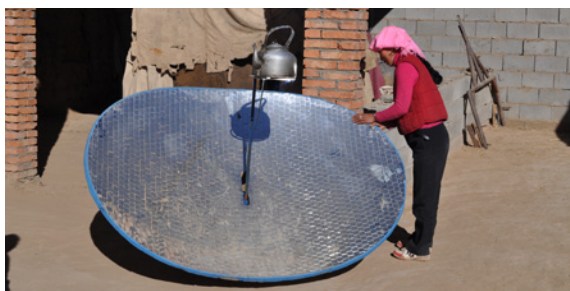
FCA staff films a man and woman singing competitively during a music festival in August 2011.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Overall

Mangra County has the largest desert, which is rapidly increasing in size in Hainan Prefecture. Increased stocking rates caused by land reallocation and decreased pasture availability, due to creation of a large reservoir, has led to erosion and increased desertification. Further options and environmental protection awareness are urgent needs in local areas. FCA seeks to do reforestation projects and hold meetings to raise awareness of the importance of environmental protection.

Highlight



Solar cookers were provided to villagers to reduce the amount of wood and coal burned to boil water and cook.



Mangra County has a large desert. FCA provided trees for a village to plant in the nearby desert.

SOCIAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES



Overall

Establishing social businesses in local communities empowers impoverished communities to overcome poverty, and solve social problems in a self-guided, sustainable way. Securing resources locally allows FCA to implement additional projects. To gain further knowledge and contacts to make this more successful, FCA staff have attended programs such as the Global Young Leadership Program, Social Enterprise Summit, Global Engagement Summit, and CSR Training Programs in China.

Tibetan Handcraft Development and Women Empowerment Business

This project addresses cultural loss, and the lack of social and economic enterprises able to address the root causes of pervasive poverty in the targeted Mangra communities. FCA's research on social business indicates the urgent need and opportunity for such projects, particularly with Tibetan textile handicrafts. Currently, many traditional Tibetan arts and folk practices are at risk of vanishing. Skilled artisans who previously produced traditional Tibetan wares are forced by economic pressures to give up these vocations for short-term, but unsustainable, income generation opportunities.

For these reasons, FCA established a co-operative workshop in Gomang Town equipped with equipment and supplies enabling primarily women to produce traditional items on site. This project employed ten full time craftspeople (1,500 RMB – 2,500 RMB per person per month), and trained over forty voluntary Tibetan artisans with the infrastructure, distribution, and training capabilities to tap into promising markets, translate their skills into income-generating opportunities and preserve traditional craftsmanship. Artisans will employ the same skills to produce such traditional items as robes and tents, for Tibetan communities as well as t-shirts and bags for sale to urban customers.

We plan to eventually reinvest the proceeds to establish similar workshops in other Tibetan areas. Establishment of retail outlets in Chinese cities and a website for sales to urban and foreign customers are underway.

Further current information may be viewed at: <http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/a-hundred-friends/>

Highlight



A Tibetan handicraft development project was initiated. Above is the logo of the project.



A local woman uses a sewing machine to produce Tibetan clothes.



Craftsmen and women make tents to sell in herding areas.



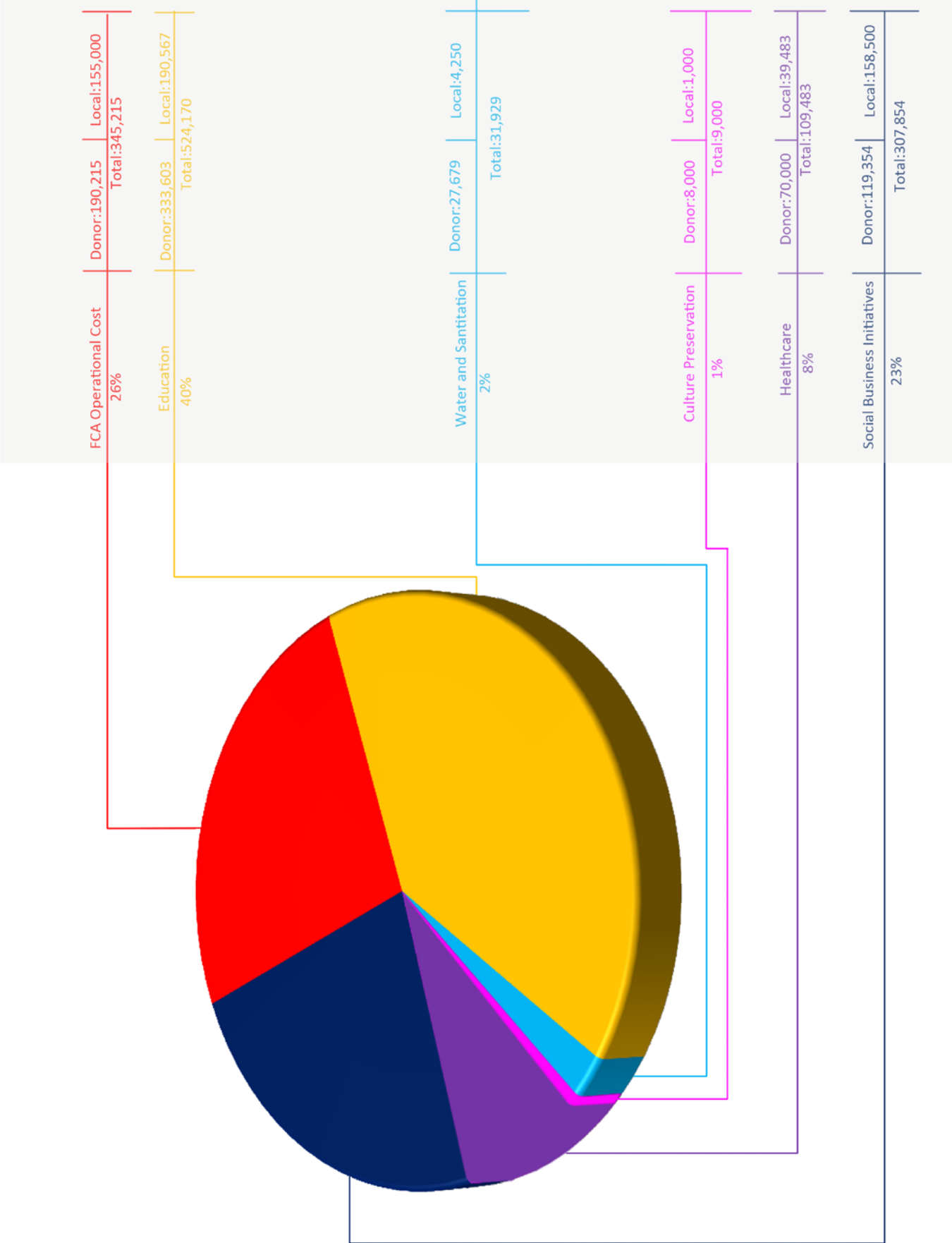
Tibetan clothes in a handicraft shop opened by FCA in Mangra County.

2011 COMPLETED PROJECTS

No.	Project Title	Donors	Donor RMB	Local RMB	Beneficiaries
1	FCA Operational Cost	Misereor	1,175,215	150,000	57
2	English, Tibetan, and Chinese Teaching Programs		6,595	3,800	104
3	Kindergarten Teacher Training	HuaQiao Foundation	3,500	1,000	10
4	FCA Office Rental		15,000	5,000	57
5	English, Tibetan, and Chinese Teaching Programs		25,000	18,500	650
6	English, Tibetan, and Chinese Teaching Programs	Ramona Johnson	8,178	4,000	203
7	Tibetan Journal <i>The Rhythm of Bya chu</i>	Philip Jones	3,500	500	550
8	Four Tibetan Scholarships	Richard Harlan	6,000	4,000	12
9	Five Tibetan Scholarships	ERM Foundation	15,000	10,000	15
10	Five Tibetan Scholarships		5,630	5,300	15
11	Handicraft Project in Huojiao Village	100 Friends	8,000	5,000	14
12	Education Supplies, Ganglha Tibetan Kindergarten		65,000	19,784	73
13	Education Supplies, Four Tibetan Kindergartens	German Embassy in Beijing	80,000	85,460	270
14	Tibetan Health Clinic		70,000	37,483	2,047
15	Toilets and Pigsties for Two Communities	Kalle Mattila	27,679	4,250	1,188
16	Tibetan Handicraft Project 1	U.S Embassy in Beijing	122,000	103,500	2,010
17	Tibetan Handicraft Project 2	Globalgiving	19,354	50,000	
18	Comprehensive Literacy & Employment Training	Canada Fund	75,200	34,400	88
19	Literacy and Vocational Training 1	Czech Embassy	20,000	1,923	20
20	Literacy and Vocational Training 2	British Embassy	20,000	1,900	20
21	Clothing for Poor People	Crown Relocation; ERM Foundation	9,448 articles of clothes	2,000	4,431
22	Traditional Tibetan New Year Project, Bon skor Tibetan Community	FCA	2,000	500	2,480
23	Traditional Tibetan Black Tent Folk Song Competition	FCA	6,000	500	2,000
TOTAL			778,851	548,800	163,14

1. This number includes 2010 and 2011.

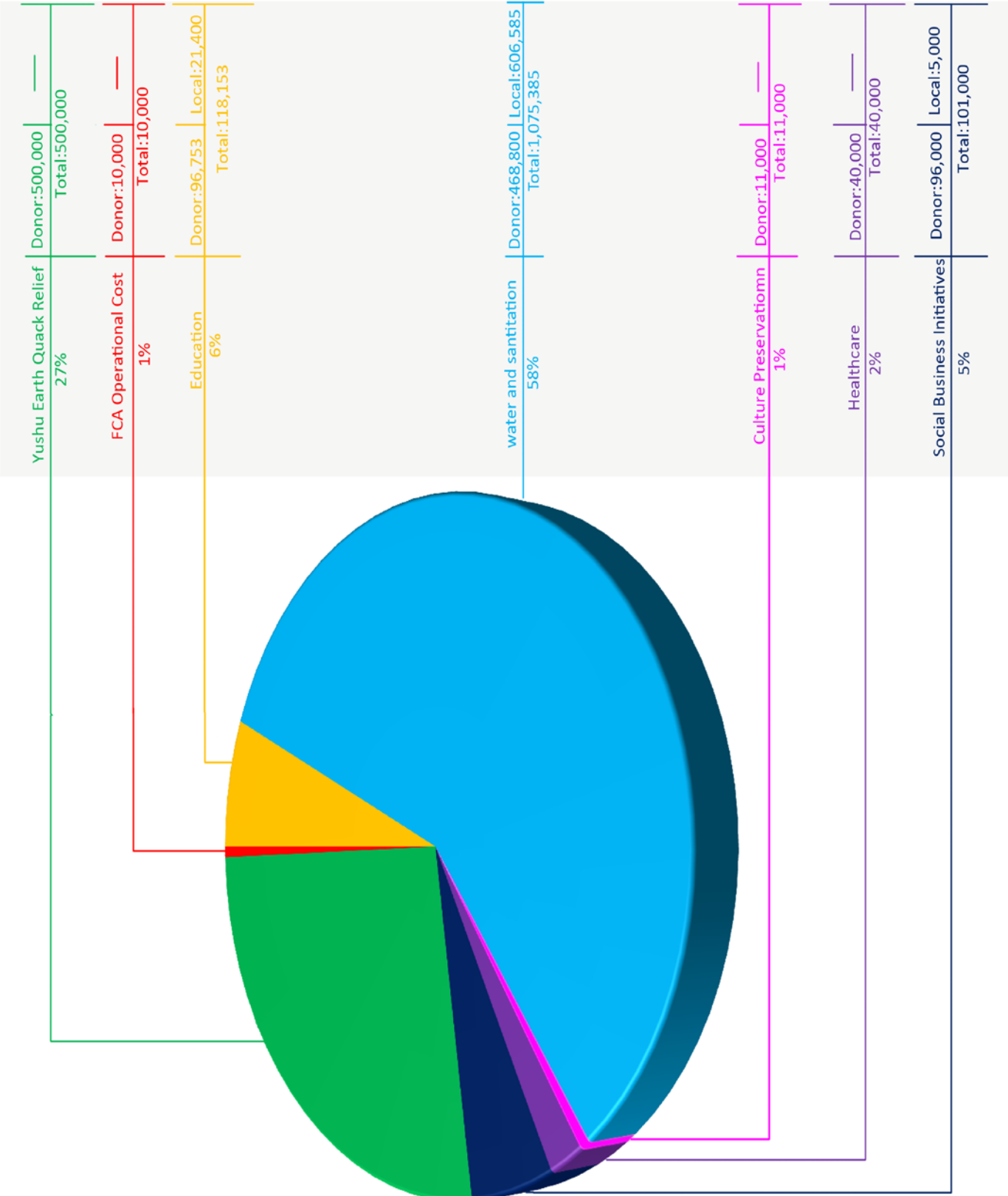
2011 Finances



2010 COMPLETED PROJECTS

No.	Project Title	Donors	Donor RMB	Local RMB	Beneficiaries
1	Traditional Folksong Recording Project	FCA	3,000		430
2	Traditional Folksong Competition	FCA	5,000		2,000
3	New Year Activity	FCA	3,000		2,000
4	Textile crafts	FCA	80,000		1,000
5	Comprehensive Health and Environment Project for Five Communities	The Canada Fund	240,958	291,435	8,264
6	Water Project for Dongkor Community	The German Embassy	70,132	95,000	1,021
7	Irrigation Project for Demang Community	The German Embassy	79,000	77,400	1,047
8	Damang Community Water Project	HuaQiao Foundation	44,810	16,750	185
9	Water Project for Shaja Community	HQF	33,900	126,000	1,300
10	Library Projects for Two Communities	The Bangkok Primary School; Dana R. Nicholson	20,628	7,000	292
11	Teaching English, Tibetan, and Chinese for Guday Community	Ramona Johnson	5,115	1,600	166
12	Teaching Program for Demang, Bonskor	Philips Jones	10,000	4,300	363
13	Teaching program for Five Communities	HQF	20,010	5,500	332
14	"Go West" Teaching Program for Five Communities	HQF	5,000	3,000	325
15	Scholarship for Four College Students	ERM Foundation	30,000		4
16	Clothes Distribution Project	ERM Foundation	86 Pieces		86
17	Yushu Earthquake Relief Project 1	Various donors	100,000		270
18	Yushu Earthquake Relief Project 2	Shelter Box	400,000(200 Tents)		800
19	Donation in Three Communities	100 Friends Project	40,000		54
20	Handicrafts in Hojor Community	100 Friends Project	16,000	5,000	23
21	Office Rental	HQF	10,000		57
22	Scholarship for Four Junior Middle School students	Richard Harlan	6,000		4
TOTAL			1,222,553	632,985	20,023

2010 Finances



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Organizations

100 Friends
British Embassy in Beijing
Canada Fund in Beijing
Crown Relocation
Czech Embassy in Beijing
ERM Foundation
German Embassy in Beijing
Global Engagement Summit
Global Village
GlobalGiving
HuaQiao Foundation
Misereor in Germany
Pivot Consulting
US Embassy in Beijing

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Ann Down
Anne SW Bishop
Archie Lyons
Armanda Rodrigues
Brian Shobe
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Mark Secchia
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Oscar Alfaro
Philip Jones
Richard Harlan
Wei Song
Yingqi Tang
Others who wished to remain anonymous

**We sincerely thank the many people who helped FCA
for their generous support in 2011.**

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Friendship Charity Association